

Message Text

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ACTION EA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-14 SY-05 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

SP-02 SS-15 ICA-20 AID-05 /113 W

-----085188 111011Z /10

P 110930Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8274

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 MANILA 11618

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OVIP (MARCOS, MRS. IMELDA), SCUL, PEPR, UR, RP

SUBJECT: MRS. MARCOS GOES TO MOSCOW

REF: MANILA 10016

SUMMARY: MRS. IMELDA MARCOS VISITED THE SOVIET UNION JUNE 29-JULY 8. HIGH POINTS OF THE VISIT WERE A TWO-HOUR MEETING WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN JULY 4 AND THE SIGNING OF A BILATERAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT. THE REST OF HER TIME WAS SPENT SIGHTSEEING, CONFERRING ON URBAN AFFAIRS, AND BEING "THE GUEST OF HONOR" AT THE TCHAIKOVSKY MUSIC COMPETITION. END SUMMARY

1. THE FOLLOWING ACCOUNT OF PHILIPPINE FIRST LADY IMELDA MARCOS' VISIT TO THE SOVIET UNION IS TAKEN FROM THE MANILA PRESS, WHICH RAN VIRTUALLY DAILY STORIES FROM WESTERN WIRE SERVICES AND GOP'S NATIONAL MEDIA PRODUCTION CENTER (NMPC). ACCORDING TO HEAVY PRESS BUILDUP, SHE WENT TO MOSCOW AS "THE GUEST OF HONOR" AT THE TCHAIKOVSKY UNCLASSIFIED

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MUSICAL COMPETITION ON THE INVITATION OF THE SOVIET MINISTER OF CULTURE.

2. MRS. MARCOS LEFT MANILA AT 0400 JUNE 29. PRINCIPAL MEMBERS OF HER PARTY WERE: LABOR MINISTER BLAS OPLE, PRESIDENTIAL REORGANIZATION COMMISSIONER ARMAND FABELLA, GOVERNMENT SERVICES INSURANCE SYSTEM CHAIRMAN ROMAN

CRUZ, JRL, BG JOSE SYJUCO, BG ANDRES MANIPULA (RET.) AND METRO MANILA HEALTH OFFICER DR. GABRIEL CARREON. HER PLANE REFUELED IN BANGKOK, WHERE PRIME MINISTER KRIANGSAK MET HER AT AIRPORT, AND THEN FLEW TO TASHKENT FOR OVER-NIGHT REST STOP. WHILE IN TASHKENT SHE CALLED ON THE PRESIDENT OF UZBEKISTAN AND TOURED SAMARKAND.

3. MRS. MARCOS ARRIVED IN MOSCOW JUNE 30 AND WAS MET AT THE AIRPORT BY MINISTER OF CULTURE PIOTR DEMICHEV. SHE WENT TO HIS OFFICE FOR A TWO-HOUR COURTESY CALL AND THEN TO A TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERT. JULY 1 SHE VISITED THE MEDIEVAL CITIES OF VLADIMIR AND SUZDAL.

4. JULY 2 WAS HER 49TH BIRTHDAY: THE FIRST SHE EVER SPENT AWAY FROM HER HOME PROVINCE OF LEYTE, SHE SAID. SHE ATTENDED A CATHOLIC MASS AND THEN RECEIVED CALLERS AT HER QUARTERS. SHE GAVE OUT PHILIPPINE SOUVENIRS TO SOVIET CALLERS AND "HAPPY BIRTHDAY" T-SHIRTS TO FILIPINOS. (MANILA PRESS MADE COMPARATIVELY LITTLE OF HER BIRTHDAY THIS YEAR, ALTHOUGH ONE NEWSPAPER DID RUN A SPECIAL SECTION WITH ARTICLES ON HER ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND ADS FROM CORPORATE WELL-WISHERS.)

5. ON JULY 4 MRS. MARCOS MET FOR TWO HOURS WITH PREMIER KOSYGIN (PRESS EXPLAINED THAT CHAIRMAN BREZHNEV WAS OUT OF TOWN). THE FIRST HALF HOUR OF THE MEETING WAS WITH UNCLASSIFIED

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HER FULL ENTOURAGE, AND THE REMAINING TIME WAS ALONE WITH KOSYGIN. SHE TOLD THE PRESS AFTERWARDS IT HAD BEEN "A MOST FRUITFUL MEETING" BUT SHE DECLINED TO DISCUSS THE TOPICS. SHE SAID SHE HAD TRANSMITTED MESSAGES AND ASKED QUESTIONS ON BEHALF OF PRESIDENT MARCOS.

6. JULY 3 AND 4 SHE VISITED A PRE-SCHOOL DAY CARE CENTER, THE MOSCOW OLYMPIC SITE, AND THE "STAR CITY" COSMONAUT COMPLEX, AND SHE MET WITH THE MAYOR OF MOSCOW TO DISCUSS URBAN DEVELOPMENTS IN HER CAPACITY AS METRO MANILA GOVERNOR. AT STAR CITY SHE NOTED IN THE GUEST BOOK: "TODAY IS A SIGNIFICANT DAY FOR US FILIPINOS. THE US CHOSE TO GIVE US BACK OUR INDEPENDENCE ON THE FOURTH OF JULY." ON JULY 5 SHE ADDRESSED THE SOVIET-PHILIPPINE FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY, AND ON JULY 6 THE MINISTER OF CULTURE GAVE A DINNER IN HER HONOR.

7. SHE SIGNED AN INTER-GOVERNMENTAL CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH FOREIGN MINISTER GROMYKO ON JULY 7. THIS AGREEMENT, ACCORDING TO THE PRESS, REPLACES A TWO YEAR CULTURAL AGREEMENT SIGNED IN 1975 BETWEEN THE TWO SEMI-OFFICIAL FRIENDSHIP SOCIETIES. THE NEW AGREEMENT IS "TO DEVELOP

TIES AND COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE, HIGHER OR POST-GRADUATE EDUCATION, AND SPORTS." THE POSSIBILITY OF ANOTHER AGREEMENT ON RADIO AND TELEVISION COOPERATION "WILL BE STUDIED," ACCORDING TO THE PRESS. NMPC DESCRIBED THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT AS FOLLOWS: "IN THE FIELD OF CULTURE, THIS WOULD BE DONE THROUGH INDIVIDUAL VISITS OF WRITERS, PAINTERS, SCULPTORS, COMPOSERS AND MUSICIANS, INDIVIDUAL AND GROUP PERFORMERS AND OTHER REPRESENTATIVES, EXCHANGE OF LITERARY WORKS, BOOKS, AND PERIODICALS ON ART AND MUSIC, FILMS AND RECORDINGS, AND ART AND OTHER

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8275

INFO CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

UNCLAS SECTION 02 OF 02 MANILA 11618

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

CULTURAL EXHIBITIONS, AND THE ESTABLISHMENT OF CONTACTS BETWEEN THEIR NATIONAL LIBRARIES, MUSEUMS, AND OTHER SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF MATERIALS ON ART AND LITERATURE. THE TWO COUNTRIES AGREE TO PROMOTE THE STUDY OF EACH OTHER'S LANGUAGES AND LITERATURE AT APPROPRIATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THROUGH THE EXCHANGE OF HIGHER OR POST-GRADUATE STUDENTS AND PROFESSORS, ORGANIZATION OF SPECIAL COURSES AND SEMINARS ON THESE LEVELS, AND EXCHANGE OF LITERATURE AND STUDY MATERIALS. EXCHANGES IN THE FIELD OF SPORTS AND PHYSICAL EDUCATION WILL BE ENCOURAGED WITH ATHLETIC MEETS, AND COMPETITIONS TO BE HELD ON THE BASIS OF RECIPROCAL INVITATIONS."

8. SHE ATTENDED THE FINAL TCHIAKOVSKY CONCERT AND AWARDS CEREMONY THAT EVENING AND DEPARTED MOSCOW THE MORNING OF JULY 8. MURPHY

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